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plications, delays, and uncertainties inherent in the system." The only real difficulty is in the natural inertia inherent in human nature, and in particular too often in the legal mind.

To the "Discussion" is appended an interesting address by Dean Roscoe Pound of the Harvard Law School on "Judicial Organization." In 1906 Dean Pound first blazed the path which has been followed by law reformers ever since. Now, if ever, as peace again settles down upon the country, there is a duty and an opportunity to carry through a long needed legal housecleaning.

AUSTIN W. SCOTT.

CODE PRACTICE IN NEW YORK. By H. Gerald Chapin, Professor of Law in Fordham University. New York: Baker, Voorhis and Company. 1918. pp. xxx, 530.

The numerous and far-reaching amendments to the New York Code of Civil Procedure during the past decade have created an imperative need for a concise exposition of code practice as it is to-day in New York. More than fifteen years have passed since the publication of the last short treatise of New York practice—Miller's "Introduction to Practice" (1903), and over seventeen years since the publication of the only other works of a similarly brief character,—Disbrow's "Summary of the Code," and Alden's "Handbook of the Code"—all books essentially limited to the use of students. Professor Chapin's concise treatise, covering the subject down to October 1, 1918, is, therefore, most opportune.

The volume is unique in code literature in that it is at once a compact and comprehensive handbook of civil procedure, so simplified in style and material that it is admirably fitted for the student's needs, and yet of such wide scope and thorough treatment that it meets the demand of the lawyer for a handy reference work on practice.

The twenty chapters of the book, following a brief introduction sketching in merest outline the historical development of the code, cover the general field of civil procedure in New York. The logical arrangement suggests a threefold division:—first, the setting,—“The Courts and their Jurisdiction,” “Judges, Attorneys, and Other Officers,” “Actions and Proceedings,” “The Parties;” second, the theme—the action carried from its commencement, through preparation for trial; the trial, and subsequent proceedings to appeal; and third,—a provost guard division, as it were, gathering in such straggling subjects as, the particular actions, state writs, special proceedings, and proceedings in the Surrogates’ Court. There is a table of cases covering several pages and a good index.

The style is direct, clear and forceful, well adapted to the simple presentation of this highly technical subject. Professor Chapin is to be commended for his success in adhering closely to the wording of the code and yet producing a very readable book.

The various code sections and the provisions of the Consolidated Laws bearing upon the particular topic under discussion are brought together, and the effect of the important decisions upon the practice involved is stated in a few words, followed by the citation. The placing of all citations in parenthesis in the body of the text is quite in keeping with the character of the work as a resumé of code practice. Documents and papers employed in the various stages of code procedure are illustrated under the appropriate subjects by well-drawn forms, several having been adapted from actual cases in which they had been passed upon by the courts.

The chief criticism of Professor Chapin's book is that it is wholly neutral. It carries no message in favor of or against the present day practice under the New York Civil Code. Neither by foreword nor by footnote observations

does the author attempt a critique of code provisions, or the court decisions interpreting them, and the great struggle which has been waged during recent years by leading members of the New York Bar for a simplified procedure analogous to the English system of practice under the Judicature Acts is completely ignored. In short, Professor Chapin has given us an instantaneous picture of New York practice under the Code of Civil Procedure as it existed on the date his book went to press. To many that will undoubtedly appeal as a recommendation rather than a detriment, but in view of the present widespread agitation for procedural reform in New York this colorless attitude cannot but be disappointing to the thoughtful and forward-looking members of the bar.

The title "Code Practice in New York" is broader in scope than the content of the work, which is limited to an exposition of the practice under the Code of Civil Procedure, and does not discuss the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Professor Chapin has, however, produced a thoroughly useful book, and a refreshing one in that it is distinctly restricted to material pertinent to the subject.

GEORGE J. THOMPSON.

THE PROBLEM OF ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS. By H. J. Laski. Northampton: Smith College Studies, Vol. IV, No. 1.

FIRST VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW BY GERMANY. By L. Renault. New York: Longmans.

HISTORY OF ECONOMIC LEGISLATION IN IOWA. By I. L. Pollock. Iowa: Iowa Historical Society.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE. By Edward Jenks. Boston: Little, Brown and Company. 1918. pp. viii, 369.

PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION. By Harris Hawthorne Wilder and Bert Wentworth. Boston: The Gorham Press.

GERMAN LEGISLATION FOR THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES OF BELGIUM. Index to Series X-XIII. Edited by Charles H. Huberich and A. Nicol-Speyer. The Hague: Martinus Nijhoff.

CONNECTICUT WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION COMMISSION DIGEST. Board of Compensation Commissioners. Meriden: The Journal Publishing Company.

A SOURCE-BOOK OF MILITARY LAW AND WAR TIME LEGISLATION. War Department Committee on Education and Special Training. St. Paul: West Publishing Company.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS AND ITS PROBLEMS. By L. Oppenheim. New York: Longmans.

THE POLITICAL WORKS OF JAMES I. With an Introduction by Charles Howard McIlwain. Harvard Political Classics. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

BRITISH-AMERICAN DISCORDS AND CONCORDS. Compiled by the History Circle. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.